The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated November 13, 2008. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

As outlined above, claims 1-6 and 11-16 stand for consideration in this application, wherein claims 1-3 and 11 are being amended. In addition, new claims 12-16 are hereby submitted for consideration.

All amendments to the application are fully supported therein, including Fig. 7 and page 13, line 16 – page 14, line 2 of the specification. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph, Rejection

Claims 1-6 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Claims 1-3 are being amended so as to meet the requirements under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejection

35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejection

Claims 1-6 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Pace et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 7,181,731). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

According to the M.P.E.P. §2131, a claim is anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102 (a), (b), and (e) only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.

Claim 1

In a method as recited in claim 1, both of a client machine and a server machine manage the data transfer involved in the change of a machine for job execution.

The client machine issues to the server machine a job execution request for executing the job. The job execution request is accompanied by environment information on a client machine side and job execution statements for the job to be executed. The environment information includes a volume logical path, a volume physical path, a program product name, and a version of the program product on the client machine side.

The server machine allocates a logical computer for the job execution request, acquires from the logical computer both of a volume logical path and a volume physical path on a server machine side for the allocated logical computer, assigns a server side volume for the logical computer corresponding to a client side volume through a process of creating volume correlation information with use of the volume logical path and the volume physical path on the client machine side included in the environment information and the acquired volume logical path and the acquired volume physical path for the logical computer, controls transfer of input data on the client side volume to a server side volume based on the volume correlation information, converts the environment information and the job execution statements based on the volume correlation information so as to replace information about the volume logical path and the volume physical path included in the job execution request by corresponding information for the logical computer of the server machine where the job is to be executed, and further replace the program product name and the version by corresponding information for the server machine on an as-needed basis, transmits the replaced environment information to said logical computer, and executes the job in said logical computer using the input data and the replaced environment information.

The table shown in Fig. 14 describes exemplary volume correlation information with use of the volume logical path and the volume physical path on the client machine side included in the environment information and the acquired volume logical path and the acquired volume physical path for the logical computer. Using such volume correlation information, the data on the client side can be directly transferred to the server side. As such, data transfer involved in the change of a machine for job execution is managed by the client machine and the server machine together.

In contrast, Pace shows that a component distribution server (CDS)/asset distribution server (ADS) tier 1130 intervenes between a client tier 1140 and a server tier 1120. (See Fig. 9 and col. 60, lines 31-33.) In Pace, the CDS/ADS tier 1130 and its component CDS/ADS servers may distribute the assets such as data, objects applications, programs modules to

another tier, platform, and/or environment for execution. (See col. 12, lines 44-45 and col. 61, lines 4-7.) As well, Pace also shows that a distribution server 1230 and a server node or asset server node 1235 intervene between a client tier 1255 and a server tier 1210. (See Fig. 10 and col. 61, line 66 – col. 62, line 23.) Apparently, in Pace the asset is managed by neither a client nor a server. Rather, the asset is managed by a third server, namely a component distribution server (CDS)/asset distribution server (ADS) 1130 or a distribution server 1230. In Pace, the third server is shared by a plurality of servers and clients, and thus, excessive load will be concentrated to the third server. Pace does not show or suggest the features recited in claim 1 to manage the data transfer involved in the change of a machine for job execution with both of a client machine and a server machine.

Therefore, Pace does not show every element recited in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by Pace.

Claims 13, 14

As to dependent claims 13-14, the arguments set forth above with respect to independent claim 1 are equally applicable here. The corresponding base claim being allowable, claims 13-14 must also be allowable.

Furthermore, in a method as recited in claim 13, the client machine determines according to policy information whether the job is to be executed on the server machine. The policy information includes information about availability of computer resources needed to execute the job on the client machine. The client machine issues the job execution request if it is determined that the job is to be executed on the server machine. The job execution request further includes information about an amount of each of the computer resources needed to execute said job. The server machine allocates said logical computer based on the received information about the amount of each computer resource.

By these features, the server machine is able to effectively utilize its computer resources because the server machine does not need to execute jobs which the client machine can execute. Moreover, when receiving from the client machine the job execution request that includes an amount of each of the computer resources, the server machine allocates only the amount of the computer resources needed for the logical computer to execute the job. Accordingly, unnecessary loads on the server machine can be avoided, and the server machine can use its computer resources efficiently.

In contrast, although Pace shows that the client distributes a job or a package to the server to cause the job to be executed on the server side, Pace does not show or suggest

determining whether the job can be executed on the client side. Therefore, in Pace, the server will execute the job on the server side, whether the client is available to execute the job or not. This will cause an unnecessary load on the server.

In sum, Pace does not show every element recited in claim 13. Accordingly, claims 13 and its dependent claim 14 are not anticipated by Pace.

Claims 2, 11, 12

Claim 2 has substantially the same features as those of claim 1. As such, the arguments set forth above are equally applicable here.

Furthermore, in a method as recited in claim 2, the client machine determines according to policy information whether the job is to be executed on the server machine. In a method as recited in claim 11, said policy information includes information about availability of computer resources needed to execute said job on said client machine, and the job execution request further includes information about an amount of each of the computer resources needed to execute said job, and the server machine allocates said logical computer based on the received information about the amount of each computer resource. In contrast, as set forth above, Pace does not show or suggest these features.

In sum, Pace does not show every element recited in claims 2 and 11. Accordingly, claims 2 and 11 and its dependent claim 12 are not anticipated by Pace.

Claim 3-6, 15-16

Claim 3 has substantially the same features as those of claim 1. Also, claim 15 has substantially the same features as those of claim 13. As such, the arguments set forth above are equally applicable here.

Claim 1 and 13 being allowable, claim 3 and its dependent claims 4-6 and 15-16 must also be allowable.
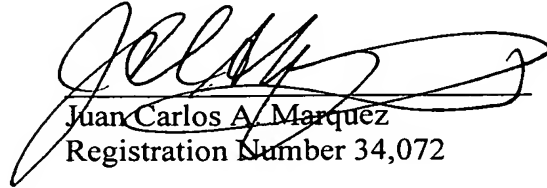
Conclusion

In light of the above-outlined Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully request early and favorable action with regard to the present application, and a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to

contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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